

November 30, 2004

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**APPROVE GRANT APPLICATION TO OBTAIN FEDERAL FUNDS FOR
LA CRESCENTA LIBRARY PROJECT (5)
(4-VOTES)**

**JOINT RECOMMENDATION WITH THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER THAT
YOUR BOARD:**

1. Find that the grant actions recommended are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and are excluded from the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).
2. Approve the submission of the attached application for a Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Economic Development Initiative (EDI) Grant, and instruct the Chair to sign.
3. Approve the attached Appropriation Adjustment to increase the project budget by \$447,000, offset by the HUD EDI Grant.
4. Approve acceptance by the County of the grant funds, and authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, County Librarian and Director of Public Works to act on the County's behalf regarding completion of all documents as may be required to receive the grant funds, after approval as to form by County Counsel.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approval of this recommendation will allow the County to submit a grant application to the Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development to obtain additional construction funds for the proposed La Crescenta Library Expansion project (C.P. 77450). The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2004 (PL 108-199), signed into law by President Bush on January 23, 2004, provided HUD funds for this project through the Economic Development Initiative Special Projects program. This funding for the project was requested by Congressman David Dreier (R-26) in whose district the project is located. The funds will be used for construction.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

Approval of this recommendation is consistent with the County's Strategic Plan Goal of Fiscal Responsibility since completion of the project represents an investment in public infrastructure. It is also consistent with the goal of Service Excellence since the proposed new facility will provide improved library service to area residents.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The 2004-05 Capital Projects/Refurbishments Budget currently reflects \$3,400,000 in Fifth District Capital Project funds for this project. Costs to acquire land, develop plans and specifications, and construct the library as well as additional ongoing operating costs associated with this library expansion are currently being developed. We will return to the Board in the future with estimated project costs, scope and schedule to proceed with this project and additional funding sources for project completion.

The attached appropriation adjustment will supplement the existing project budget by \$447,000, offset by the HUD EDI grant, resulting in a revised appropriation of \$3,847,000.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development notified the County that funds in the amount of \$447,345 were appropriated for this project as Grant Number B-04-SP-CA-0116 for the construction of a new library in La Crescenta. In order to obtain these funds, the County needs to submit the attached Application for Federal Assistance describing the project and providing other information by December 31, 2004. The grant application needs to be approved by the Board and signed by the Chair.

This project is still under development and the County is in the process of selecting a proposed site for the new library. A needs assessment and building program for the proposed library have been completed. An architectural/engineering firm still needs to be engaged to prepare plans and specifications for the library. We will return at a later date to advise the Board when the full cost of the project and funding sources have been identified.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

This action does not require environmental documentation because the proposed project has not been authorized, and it can be seen with certainty that the recommended actions will not cause a significant adverse impact on the environment. We will return to the Board at a later date with necessary environmental actions and related project recommendations.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Approval of these recommendations will enable the County to obtain additional funds to assist with financing some of the construction cost of this proposed project.

Please return an adopted copy of this letter to the Public Library, Department of Public Works, and Chief Administrative Office--Capital Projects Division. In addition, please return to the Public Library a fully conformed original of the grant application with original signatures.

Respectfully submitted,

MARGARET DONNELLAN TODD
County Librarian

DAVID E. JANSSEN
Chief Administrative Officer

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Attachments

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
 Public Works Department
 Auditor-Controller